UNITED NATIONS

NINTH
UNITED NATIONS CONGRESS
ON THE PREVENTION OF CRIME
AND THE TREATMENT OF OFFENDERS

Cairo, Egypt, 29 April – 8 May 1995

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ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Item 2 of the provisional agenda*

ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS

Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

Note by the Secretariat

INTRODUCTION

1. In its resolution 46/152, the General Assembly endorsed the role and functions of the United Nations congresses on the prevention of crime and the treatment of offenders, in accordance with the recommendations contained in the statement of principles and programme of action of the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme, annexed to the resolution. The Economic and Social Council, in its resolution 1992/24, adopted the recommendations by the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice on the organization of work for the Ninth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, and in its resolution 1993/32, it approved the provisional agenda of the Congress. Further organizational and substantive arrangements were adopted by the Council in its resolution 1994/19, as proposed by the Secretary-General in his report on progress made in the preparation for the Congress (E/CN.15/1994/8). The Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice served as the preparatory body for the Congress and provided overall guidance on its preparations.

I. PRE-CONGRESS CONSULTATIONS

2. In its decision 1995/211 of 10 February 1995, the Economic and Social Council decided that the Ninth Congress should be held from 28 April to 8 May 1995, and that the necessary pre-congress consultations should take place on 28 April. The purpose of these consultations, which will be open to all participating States, is to reach agreement on recommendations to be made on all procedural and organizational matters to be dealt with by the Congress at the opening meeting, such as the election of officers and composition of the General Committee, the distribution among the regional groups of offices in the General Committee, the adoption of the rules of procedure, the adoption of the agenda and organization of work, the appointment of

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the members of the Credentials Committee, the election of officers of the committees and arrangements for the preparation of the report of the Congress.

II. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

3. Rule 6 of the provisional rules of procedure for United Nations congresses on the prevention of crime and the treatment of offenders (A/CONF.169/2) provides that the Congress shall elect from among the representatives of participating States a President, 24 Vice-Presidents and a Rapporteur-General, as well as a Chairman for each of the committees provided for in rule 45. These officers shall constitute the General Committee and shall be elected on the basis of equitable geographical distribution.

4. In accordance with past practice, it is understood that 27 of the 28 officers constituting the General Committee will be distributed according to the following geographical pattern: seven representatives from African States, six from Asian States, three from Eastern European States, five from Latin American and Caribbean States, and six from Western European and other States; and that, while the presidency will go to the head of the delegation of the host country in accordance with standard practice, it will not be counted for purposes of regional distribution.

5. It is hoped that the regional groups will be in a position to make known their nominations for the offices in the General Committee at the pre-Congress consultations. In this context it is relevant to recall that, under rule 43 of the rules of procedure, all elections are to be held by secret ballot, unless the Congress decides otherwise in an election where the number of candidates does not exceed the number of elective places to be filled.

III. ADOPTION OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE

6. The Congress will have before it the provisional rules of procedure approved by the Economic and Social Council in its resolution 1993/32 (A/CONF.169/2).

IV. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND ORGANIZATION OF WORK

A. Provisional agenda

7. The provisional agenda for the Ninth Congress is contained in document A/CONF.169/1.

B. Allocation of items

8. In its resolution 1993/32, the Economic and Social Council endorsed the programme of work of the Ninth Congress, including the holding of six workshops. That programme was reaffirmed in Council resolution 1994/19. It is recommended, accordingly, that items 1, 2, 3, 4 and 7 of the provisional agenda be considered in plenary meetings, item 5 be allocated to Committee I and item 6 to Committee II. It is also recommended that the workshops on topics (e) and (f) be allocated to Committee I, and the workshops on topics (a), (b), (c) and (d) be allocated to Committee II.* The draft timetable for the work of the Congress

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*The topics of the workshop are listed in Economic and Social Council resolution 1993/32, paragraph 5. See also the annotations to the provisional agenda, under item 2 (d).

is contained in the annex to the present note. It is understood that each committee will adjust its organization of work as required.

C. Organization of meetings

9. The resources available to the Congress permit the holding of a maximum of three simultaneous meetings in the morning and an equal number in the afternoon, including working groups, informal consultations and regional group meetings held in place of formal meetings.

10. In accordance with the provisions of rule 45 of the provisional rules of procedure, each committee may set up subcommittees and working groups, to the extent permitted by conference service facilities available at the Congress site.

11. Meetings shall normally be scheduled from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. In order to ensure the most efficient use of available resources, it is recommended that all the meetings start promptly at the scheduled time.

V. CREDENTIALS OF REPRESENTATIVES TO THE CONGRESS: APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS OF THE CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE

12. Rule 4 of the provisional rules of procedure provides that there shall be a Credentials Committee of nine members appointed by the Congress on the proposal of the President, and that its membership shall, as far as possible, be the same as that of the Credentials Committee of the General Assembly of the United Nations at its preceding session.

13. At the forty-ninth session of the General Assembly the Credentials Committee was co. posed of the following States: China, Fiji, Honduras, Namibia, Portugal, the Russian Federation, Suriname, Togo and the United States of America. In accordance with established practice, it is understood that if one of those States is not present, it will be replaced by another State from the same regional group.

VI. OFFICERS OF THE COMMITTEES

14. Rule 46 of the provisional rules of procedure provides that, in addition to a Chairman elected by the Congress pursuant to rule 6, each committee shall itself elect a Vice-Chairman and a Rapporteur from among the representatives of participating States. The same rule also provides that subcommittees and working groups shall each elect a Chairman and no more than two Vice-Chairmen from among the representatives of participating States.

15. It is recommended that agreement should be reached before the opening of the Congress on the slate of candidates for those posts, thus allowing elections by acclamation and dispensing with the requirements of a secret ballot.

VII. REPORT OF THE CONGRESS

16. In accordance with the practice followed by previous congresses, it is recommended that the report of the Congress should consist of the decisions of the Congress, a brief account of the events leading to the convening of the congress and the proceedings, including a summary of the substantive work conducted by the plenary and by the committees, and a repertorial account of the action taken in plenary meetings.

17. As has also been the practice in the past, it is recommended that each regional group be requested to designate, before the opening of the Congress, two persons to serve as friends of the Rapporteur-General, as well as a similar number to serve in the same capacity in respect of the rapporteurs of each of the committees, to assist those officials in preparing the draft reports of the Congress.

Annex

PROPOSED TIMETABLE OF THE WORK OF THE CONGRESS*

Friday, 28 April Pre-Congress consultations

Plenary

Saturday, 29 April

10.30 a.m. Item 1. Opening of the Congress

Item 2. Organizational matters:

(a) Elections of the President and of other officers;

(b) Adoption of the rules of procedure;

(c) Adoption of the agenda;

(d) Organization of work;

(e) Credentials of representatives to the Congress:

(i) Appointment of the members of the Credentials Committee;
(ii) Report of the Credentials Committee

3 p.m. Item 3. International cooperation and practical technical assistance for strengthening the rule of law: promoting the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme (topic I) (introduction of the item and general debate)

Sunday, 30 April

10 a.m. and 3 p.m. Item 3 (continuation of the general debate)

1 p.m. **Closure of the list of speakers on item 3**

Monday, 1 May

10 a.m. and 3 p.m. Item 3 (continuation of the general debate)

Tuesday, 2 May

10 a.m. Item 3 (continuation of the general debate)

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*In view of the reduction in the amount of time the Congress has at its disposal, meetings will be held every day, with no interruptions.

3 p.m.	Item 4. Action against national and transnational economic and organized crime and the role of criminal law in the protection of the environment: national experiences and international cooperation (topic II) (introduction of the item and general debate)
Wednesday, 3 May	
10 a.m. and 3 p.m.	Item 4 (continuation of the general debate)
1 p.m.	**Closure of the list of speakers on item 4**
1 p.m.	**Deadline for the submission of draft proposals under item 3**
Thursday, 4 May	
10 a.m.	Item 4 (continuation of the general debate)
3 p.m.	Special session on experiences in practical measures aimed at combating corruption involving public officials
6 p.m.	**Deadline for the submission of draft proposals under item 4**
Friday, 5 May	
10 a.m.	Continuation of the special session on experiences in practical measures aimed at combating corruption involving public officials
3 p.m.	Special session on technical cooperation projects
Saturday, 6 May	
10 a.m. and 3 p.m.	Items 3 and 4: Report of the workshops on topics (a) and (e); consideration of and action on draft conclusions and recommendations Consideration of the reports of Committee I and Committee II, as available
Sunday, 7 May	
10 a.m.	Informal consultations
3 p.m.	Items 3 and 4: Action on all outstanding draft proposals Consideration of the reports of Committee I and Committee II, as available
Monday, 8 May	
10 a.m.	Consideration of the reports of Committee I and Committee II
3 p.m.	Item 7. Adoption of the report and closure of the Ninth Congress

Committee I

Saturday, 29 April

3 p.m. Election of officers

Organization of work

Item 5. Criminal justice and police systems: management and improvement of police and other law enforcement agencies, prosecution, courts, corrections, and the role of lawyers (topic III) (introduction of the item and general discussion)

Sunday, 30 April

10 a.m. and 3 p.m. Item 5 (continuation of the general discussion)

1 p.m. **Closure of the list of speakers on item 5**

Monday, 1 May

10 a.m. and 3 p.m. Item 5 (continuation of the general discussion)

Tuesday, 2 May

10 a.m. and 3 p.m. Workshop on topic (f). International cooperation and assistance in the management of the criminal justice system: computerization of criminal justice operations and the development, analysis and policy use of criminal justice information (introduction and general discussion)

6 p.m. **Deadline for the submission of draft proposals under item 5**

Wednesday, 3 May

10 a.m. and 3 p.m. Workshop on topic (f) (continuation of the general discussion)

Thursday, 4 May

10 a.m. and 3 p.m. Workshop on topic (e). Environmental protection at the national and international levels: potentials and limits of criminal justice (introduction and general discussion)

Friday, 5 May
10 a.m. and 3 p.m. Workshop on topic (e) (continuation of general discussion)

Saturday, 6 May

10 a.m. and 3 p.m Item 5:

Report of the workshop on topic (f)

Consideration of and action on draft conclusions and recommendations

ınday, 7 May

) a.m. Informal consultations

p.m. Action on all outstanding matters

Completion of the work of the Committee

Committee II

aturday, 29 April

p.m. Election of officers

Organization of work

Item 6. Crime prevention strategies, in particular as related to crimes in urban areas and juvenile and violent criminality, including the question of victims: assessment and new perspectives (topic IV) (introduction of the item and general discussion)

unday, 30 April

0 a.m. and 3 p.m. Item 6 (continuation of the general discussion)

p.m. **Closure of the list of speakers on item 6**

Monday, 1 May

0 a.m. and 3 p.m. Workshop on topic (b). Mass media and crime prevention (introduction and general discussion)

Tuesday, 2 May

10 a.m. and 3 p.m. Item 6 (continuation of the general discussion)

Wednesday, 3 May

10 a.m. and 3 p.m. Workshop on topic (a). Extradition and international cooperation: exchange of national experience and implementation of relevant principles in national legislation (introduction and general discussion)

5 p.m. **Deadline for submission of draft proposals under item 6**

Thursday, 4 May

10 a.m. and 3 p.m. Workshop on topic (c). Urban policy and crime prevention (introduction of workshop and general discussion)

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Friday, 5 May

10 a.m. and 3 p.m.	Workshop on topic (d). Prevention of violent crime (introduction of workshop and general discussion)

Saturday, 6 May

10 a.m. and 3 p.m.	Item 6:
	Report of the workshops on topics (b), (c) and (d)
	Consideration of and action on draft proposals

Sunday, 7 May

10 a.m.	Informal consultations
3 p.m.	Action on all outstanding matters
	Completion of the work of the Committee